

REPORT TO THE THE TWENTY-FIRST LEGISLATURE  
2002 REGULAR SESSION

REQUESTING THE DEPARTMENT OF LAND AND NATURAL RESOURCES TO  
NEGOTIATE WITH KAMEHAMEHA SCHOOLS, BISHOP MUSEUM, AND THE  
OFFICE OF HAWAIIAN AFFAIRS TO LEASE KALIHI VALLEY NATURE PARK FOR A  
NATIVE HAWAIIAN EDUCATION CENTER



Prepared by  
Department of Land and Natural Resources  
in response to  
House Concurrent Resolution No. 75, House Draft 1  
Twenty-First Legislature, 2001, Regular Session

December, 2001

## PURPOSE

House Concurrent Resolution (HCR) No. 75, House Draft (H.D.) 1 was adopted by the Legislature during the Regular Session of 2001 (Attachment A). H.C.R No. 75, HD1 requests the Department of Land and Natural Resources (DLNR) to negotiate with Kamehameha Schools, Bishop Museum, and the Office of Hawaiian Affairs (OHA) on the leasing of Kalihi Valley District Park for a Native Hawaiian Education Center. Testimony given on March 30, 2001 by the Chairman of the Board of Land and Natural Resources clarified that the proposed location for the Native Hawaiian Education Center should be Kalihi Valley State Park which is currently a State Parks reserve. The Concurrent Resolution identified the site as the Kalihi Valley Nature Park.

## KALIHI VALLEY STATE PARK

Kalihi Valley State Park is located at the end of Kalihi Street and the residential community of upper Kalihi Valley (TMK: 1-4-14:01 and 26; 1-4-16:03) (Attachment B). The park site is adjacent to the Board of Water Supply property and the Honolulu Watershed Forest Reserve (Western Section). The park consists of 99.65 acres in a densely vegetated, high rainfall region on the southeastern slope of Kalihi Valley.

The parcel was initially purchased by the City and County of Honolulu for park purposes in 1980. Two plant nurseries leased portions of the property from the City and County for commercial use. Warehouses, nursery structures, roadways, and abandoned vehicles from these nurseries are still located on the property.

The park was transferred from the City and County of Honolulu to the State through Legislative action as part of a larger park transfer that occurred in January 1992 (Act 312, SLH 1991). With no immediate plans for the property, the site was designated a State Park Reserve. Since the transfer, the property has essentially sat idle. There are no park sign or park facilities available.

Archaeological surveys conducted in 1977 and 1980 identified a portion of an upland agricultural field system on the property. Consisting of rock-faced terraces (*loʻi*) and irrigation ditches (*ʻāuwai*), this area was probably planted with *kalo* (taro) and irrigated with water diverted from Kalihi Stream. The archaeological complex encompasses approximately 4 acres of the property.

## STATUS REPORT

H.C.R. No. 75, HD1 was introduced by Representative Dennis Arakaki. His staff initiated a site visit to Kalihi Valley State Park on August 21, 2001. This site visit consisted of representatives from Kamehameha Schools, Bishop Museum, the Division of State Parks of DLNR, and interested community members along with Rep. Arakaki and his staff.

Those attending this meeting on August 21, 2001 were:

Partners in H.C.R., HD1 No. 75:

Marge White	Bishop Museum
Wendell Brooks	Kamehameha Schools

Community Members:

Pascal Dabis	O'ahu Pig Hunters Association
Mary Rose McClelland	Kalihi Neighborhood Board #16
Steve Kubota	Ahupua'a Alliance

Legislative Representatives:

Dennis Arakaki	State Representative, District 28
Linda Delaney	Staff, Office of Rep. Arakaki

DLNR, Division of State Parks (State Parks):

Martha Yent  
Toni Han Palermo  
Alan Carpenter

The group visited the *loʻi* and *ʻāuwai* noted in the previous archaeological surveys. In a discussion held after the site visit, State Parks staff asked who the intended audience is for this education center and what themes would be presented. There were also concerns raised about who would operate the center, as well as other operational and programmatic issues. There was a discussion about why this site was selected and the funding that would be required to plan, design, develop and operate this proposed facility.

In October 2001, State Parks began the process of consultation by trying to organize another meeting to discuss the specific concerns and issues brought up during the August 21 site visit. Telephone discussions were held with the potential partners for the project, including Kamehameha Schools, Bishop Museum, and OHA. These agencies expressed initial interest in the project and a general willingness to participate. However, many questions regarding audience, access, liability, programmatic themes, and long term sustainability were expressed. State Parks staff has begun to gather information regarding the administrative history of the park, as well as cultural information in published reports, studies, and easily accessible sources (Attachment C). State Parks staff made a second site visit on November 2, 2001 to better understand the boundaries of the park and the *mauka* portion of the park that was not visited during the August trip. Staff noted the extent and condition of the buildings and machinery parts left by the plant nurseries that had previously leased the parcel.

To be able to respond to concerns raised by the potential partners, DLNR through the Division of State Parks, proposes to conduct a series of meetings with stake holders and project partners beginning in January 2002. This series of meetings over a one-year period will be organized to assess the feasibility of the project. The specific objectives of these meeting will include:

1. Define the scope and purpose of the proposed Native Hawaiian Education Center.
  - a. Identify the goals and objectives of the education center.
  - b. Identify the target audience for the program (schools, youth groups, etc.) and any special needs of this audience that may influence their accessibility to the park.

- c. Conduct a survey of potential users of the education center.
  - d. Identify the program themes and elements.
2. Define the role and level of commitment (financial or services) of stake holders and partners.
  - a. Identify all potential partners and hold a series of meetings.
  - b. Present status reports to the Kalihi community through the Neighborhood Board and other organizations (churches, social, health and welfare agencies, etc.) regarding program availability and access to the park.
  - c. Solicit community input on the proposed education center through focus or informal gatherings.
3. Conduct additional background research on the project site.
  - a. Conduct a more comprehensive survey of cultural and natural resources and produce a detailed map of cultural resources that would be part of the educational programs to be offered.
  - b. Gather and compile ethnographic information about Kalihi Valley through interviews with *kupuna* and other knowledgeable sources.
4. Explore existing programs as potential models.
  - a. Identify other cultural educational programs already in existence and evaluate the content and audience for these programs to avoid duplication.
  - b. Visit and confer with staff of other learning centers such as Hawaii Nature Center and Ka'ala Cultural Center to better educate ourselves regarding operational as well as programmatic issues for long-term sustainability of the project.
5. Develop an operational plan for the program.
  - a. Identify needed infrastructure and facilities, such as restrooms, roadways, and parking areas.
  - b. Identify staffing needs.
  - c. Prepare a draft business plan that would identify sources of revenue and major expenses.

Other issues not identified above may evolve from the meetings and discussions. A key element in the early meetings will be to define the community's vision for the Native Hawaiian Education Center. Once the scope of the program, facilities, and operations has been identified, State Parks and the project partners will be better prepared to address the feasibility of this project at Kalihi Valley State Park and the staffing and funding needs to develop, implement, and operate this project.

## SUMMARY

DLNR supports the intent of this Concurrent Resolution and believes that a Native Hawaiian Education Center is in keeping with the goals and mission of the State Parks program. The Division of State Parks has neither short-term or long-term plans for this property that would pose a conflicting use. In addition, there are several precedents for a portion of a state park being leased to a non-profit organization to develop and operate educational programs, such as the Hawai'i Nature Center at Makiki Valley State Recreation Area and the Friends of He'eia at He'eia State Park.

However, before proceeding with plans for a Native Hawaiian Education Center, it is important to address the feasibility of such a project in Kahili Valley State Park and evaluate both community support and reservations regarding such a project.

Attachment A  
House Concurrent Resolution No. 75, H.D. 1

## HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

REQUESTING THE DEPARTMENT OF LAND AND NATURAL RESOURCES TO  
NEGOTIATE WITH KAMEHAMEHA SCHOOLS, BISHOP MUSEUM, AND THE  
OFFICE OF HAWAIIAN AFFAIRS TO LEASE KALIHI VALLEY NATURE  
PARK FOR A NATIVE HAWAIIAN EDUCATION CENTER.

1 WHEREAS, Kalihi Valley has been found to contain evidence  
2 of ancient Hawaiian habitation including a large complex of  
3 ancient Hawaiian taro terraces and an irrigation system in 40  
4 acres of forest; and

5  
6 WHEREAS, this evidence indicates that a fair-sized Hawaiian  
7 population was able to live and farm this area leaving behind,  
8 among other things, a well-preserved, walled-in spring guarded  
9 by a large, upright godstone, and house sites; and

10  
11 WHEREAS, Kalihi Valley has other unique characteristics,  
12 including a small population of Hawaiian rock wallabies; and

13  
14 WHEREAS, the Kalihi Valley Nature Park (Nature Park) abuts  
15 a Board of Water Supply watershed area and provides a source to  
16 hula halau for the collection of decorative and culturally  
17 significant plants; and

18  
19 WHEREAS, because of its cultural and historical value, the  
20 Nature Park can provide a living classroom site and an example  
21 for native Hawaiian terrace farming, irrigation, and  
22 archaeological lessons; and

23  
24 WHEREAS, both the Kamehameha Schools and the Office of  
25 Hawaiian Affairs (OHA) are trustees of the future of the native  
26 Hawaiian people in the State providing educational vision and  
27 guidance for the betterment and understanding of the Hawaiian  
28 culture; and

I do hereby certify that this document  
is a full, true and correct copy of  
on file in this office

  
Chief Clerk

1 WHEREAS, the Department of Land and Natural Resources  
2 (DLNR) is the State's guardian of public lands; and  
3

4 WHEREAS, together, Kamehameha Schools, OHA, and DLNR can  
5 jointly provide the resources, financial or otherwise, to make  
6 the Nature Park a model of native Hawaiian education and  
7 history; now, therefore,  
8

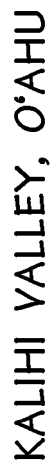
9 BE IT RESOLVED by the House of Representatives of the  
10 Twenty-first Legislature of the State of Hawaii, Regular Session  
11 of 2001, the Senate concurring, that DLNR is requested to  
12 negotiate with Kamehameha Schools, Bishop Museum, and OHA to  
13 lease Nature Park for a native Hawaiian education center at a  
14 dollar per year; and  
15

16 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that DLNR is requested to provide a  
17 report to the Legislature of the outcomes of negotiations in  
18 accordance with this Concurrent Resolution no later than twenty  
19 days prior to the convening of the 2002 Regular Session; and  
20

1 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that certified copies of this  
22 Concurrent Resolution be transmitted to the Chairpersons of the  
23 Board of Land and Natural Resources and the Board of Trustees of  
24 OHA and the President of the Kamehameha Schools.



Attachment B  
Project Map



Attachment C  
Chronology of the Park Site

## Chronology of Events Related to the Establishment of Kalihi Valley State Park

- Nov. 28, 1977 • Initial archaeological survey conducted by Dennis Callan of Life of the Land for client Herbert Horita.
- Dec. 31, 1980 • Land purchase total of 99.646 acres (four parcels) by City and County of Honolulu from limited partnership HMS Ventures (Shigeru Horita and Iwao Kishimoto) for \$1,600,000.
- Sept., 1980 • Archaeological Reconnaissance Survey conducted by Robert Connolly of parcels TMK 1-4-14:01 & 26, 1-4-16:03.
- Jan. 2, 1981 • Deed filed in Bureau of Conveyances, Land Court nos. 1049619 - 10496626.
- Feb. 1, 1981 • First one-year lease agreements with tenants inherited with property to Michael G. Barnette and Howard McPherson.
- Feb. 17, 1981 • HB No. 1067 A Bill For An Act - Making Appropriation for the Development of a State Park in the Mauka Section of Kalihi-Uka.
- June 24, 1981 • First lease agreement with Cedric Choi (Makiki Nursery).
- Aug. 6, 1981 • Memo to Miyuki Matsuno, City & County Facilities Development from Steve Salis of Advance Planning.  
• Bill Gorst and Martha Yent of State Parks and John Eveland and Miyuki Matsuno visited site.  
• Leased to two nursery operations.
- Oct. 23, 1981 • Letter to Mayor Eileen Anderson from J. Conant. of City and County reiterates acquisition of property for passive recreational purposes  
abundance of  
- Letter mentions densely vegetated, high rainfall area with mosquitos.  
- Previous owners listed as R. Pacarro, R. Varde, N. Yoshinaga and wife.  
- Initial Department of Housing and Community Development analysis of site for housing development.
- Jan. 16, 1982 • Report on housing potential for site completed. Housing not recommended for site.
- Jan. 31, 1985 • Makiki Nursery (Choi's) lease is canceled due to nonpayment.
- Oct. 7, 1985 • International Zen Dojo gets month-to-month lease from City & County.
- Feb. 28, 1986 • Request by Michael Bradley to purchase a portion of 21.186 acre parcel (TMK 1-4-16:3) for a house. Denied.
- May 14, 1986 • Letter to M. Bornhorst stating TMK 1-4-16:3 and 1-4-14:26 is 21 acres each valued in 1978 at \$730,000 per parcel.  
• TMK 1-4-14:1 is a 59.39 acres parcel valued at \$170,000.

- Last paragraph of letter states: City Dept. Of Housing & Commercial Development conducted feasibility studies in late 1981 for development of housing. Project later abandoned because of high development cost.
- Oct. 20, 1986 • Initial request from Michael Barnette to install a 5/8 inch water meter to for his nursery.
- Feb. 2, 1987 • Kalihi Valley Park declared as surplus property by Department of Parks and Recreation to Department of Finance.
- July 22, 1987 • Letter to Hiram Kamaka, Director of City and County Parks and Recreation from Lawrence Paglinawan of the Aloha Archery Council.
- Inquiry regarding using the area for an extensive archery program.
- Oct. 1, 1987 • Response letter to Donna Kim Mercado, City Council from H. Kamaka about the creation of Kalihi Valley District Park.
  - C/C Parks and Rec. viewed the development potential of the site as limited due to poor access, high rainfall, generally steep terrain.
  - City leased to Barnette and McPherson with monthly rents averaging \$300 and to International Zen Dojo for \$1.00 per year for gardening and recreational purposes.
- Oct. 7, 1987 • International Zen Dojo did minimal grubbing of 1500 sq. feet of the lower area months ago which is now overgrown.
- Nov. 6, 1987 • Dept. Of Parks and Recreation approved "Elevation Agreement" for Michael Barnette to install a water meter for his nursery after one-year.
- Jan. 5, 1988 • Group camping facility (Part of Dev. of Scope of Work by Vernon Pang).
- improvements • Comfort station, headquarters, cooking pits?, access road costs \$862,000.
- Apr. 11, 1988 • Hand written comments by DE Griffin.
- Camping facility construction cost estimate.
- Drainage estimates, serious storm runoff problems.
- Oct. 4, 1988 • p. 4 of Minutes of regular meeting of Liliha/Kapalama Neighborhood Board No. 14 "...proposed park has petroglyphs, endangered Hawaiian wallabies, ancient Hawaiian village."
- July 19, 1989 • Neighborhood Board meeting Minutes.
  - No endangered plant species.
  - Possible *heiau*.
  - Wallabies and pigs roam the area.
  - Board doesn't support nor recommends camping.
  - Supports passive education park w/ nature studies similar to Nature Center Schools are target audience.
  - Trails needed.
- Hawaii

- Jan. 9, 1991 • Memo to file from Ralston Nagata.  
-Ken Yokoyama not extending their permit because of financial reasons.
- Jan. 17, 1991 • Letter to R. Nagata from Howard G. McPherson.  
-Wants to terminate his lease on 3669 Kalihi St.
- Apr. 29, 1991 • Letter to Kazu Hayashida, BWS from Walter Ozawa, C/C P&R Dir.  
• BWS conducting exploratory well drilling on parks lands (acc. to map - in Ouaua section near Barnette house).  
• BWS did not ask nor get a permit, were reminded to do so.  
• Letter mentions transfer of park to DLNR as of Jan. 2, 1992.
- July 23, 1991 • Letter from K. Hayashida, BWS.  
• Abandoned well site, not feasible.
- Jan. 1, 1992 • By Act 312, SLH 1991 Sect. 2(b) City and County of Honolulu transfers Kalihi Valley District Park to DLNR, State Parks.
- Feb. 24, 1992 • Memo to Stafford Nagatani from R. Nagata.  
• Land transfers, status of Kalihi Valley District Park to Kalihi Valley Park.
- Apr. 27, 1992 • Letter to R. Nagata from Michael C. Barnette. Asked to terminate his lease as of Aug. 31, 1992.
- Apr. 10, 1996 • County Council approves Resolution No. 95-181 concurring transfer.
- May 30, 1996 • Revised conveyance documents on all properties to be transferred to the State have been reviewed by DLNR Land Division and Attorney General's Office.
- June 26, 1997  
SLH • Quitclaim Deed from City and County to State pursuant to Act 312, 1991 signed.  
• Quitclaim deed states that land conveyed shall assume the status of ceded lands.  
• Final processing of conveyance documents expected soon thereafter
- Nov. 21, 1997 • Memo to Stafford Nagatani, Off. Of the Gov., from R. Nagata.  
• Draft Appropriation Bill & Initial Cost Estimates for Kalihi Valley Park development.  
• \$1,300,000 for Master Plan, EIS, & completion of Phase I.
- May 26, 1999 • Executive Order #3770 signed by Governor. EO mentions "...perpetual right of way in favor of Frank Wintera and Eilian Wintera (wife) for right-of-way to pipeline easement located on state land.
- Dec. 15, 2000 • Letter to the Board of Land and Natural Resources from R. Nagata.  
• Regarding Special Use Permit extension for Michael A. Meierdiercks for residential use of a portion of TMK 1-4-16:3. Monthly rental is \$800.00 per month.  
• Granted annual month-to-month permit until Dec. 12, 2001.
- Feb. 2001 • H.B. No. 1052, Relating to Capital Improvement Projects for the Benefit of the 25th Representative District which requested \$2

million for plans, design and construction for the development of Kalihi Valley Natural History Park for a Native Hawaiian Education Center.

- Testimony of the Chairperson of the Board of Land and Natural Resources says, "While the department recognizes the need to improve its property in Kalihi Valley, we are unable to support this measure at this time as it would result in reducing the Administrations current priorities in the Executive Budget.

March 30, 2001 • Testimony of the Chairperson of the Board of Land and Natural Resources in support of House Concurrent Resolution No. 75 and House Resolution No. 70.

Aug. 21, 2001 • Site visit in response to H.B. No. 70 which states, Requesting The Department of Land and Natural Resources to Negotiate with Kamehameha Schools, Bishop Museum, and the Office of Hawaiian Affairs to Lease Kalihi Valley District Park for a Native Hawaiian Education Center.

- In response to HCR No. 75 (HR No. 70), Representative Dennis Arakaki organizes a site visit to Kalihi Valley State Park. Attendees include Pascal Dabis (O'ahu Pig Hunters Assn.), Mary Rose McClelland (Kalihi Neighborhood Board #16), Steve Kubota (*Ahupua'a* Alliance), Marge White (Bishop Museum), Wendell Brooks (Kamehameha Schools), Martha Yent, Toni Han Palermo, and Alan Carpenter (State Parks), Dennis Arakaki (State Representative), Linda Delaney (Office of Rep. Arakaki), and representative from the 'Ohana Kalihi community group.

Nov. 2, 2001 • Site visit by DLNR staff, Clyde Hosokawa, Norman Shiroma, Martha Yent and Toni Han Palermo to assess park boundaries and archaeological sites.

- Viewed upslope areas not visited on August 21, 2001 and confirmed presence of warehouses, tea house, and nursery buildings left by previous tenants.